



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0120

Issued Date: 08/24/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued 02/01/2015)
OPA Finding	<b>Sustained</b>
Final Discipline	Employee separated from Department, no discipline

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The Named Employee responded to a disturbance call.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the Named Employee did not activate ICV for an incident.

#### **INVESTIGATION**

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Interview of SPD employee

## **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The Named Employee became aware that a person with whom he was interacting was likely going to file a complaint about that interaction. The Named Employee attempted to review the In-Car Video (ICV) recording of the interaction and discovered there was none. The Named Employee immediately used the ICV recovery tool to preserve the backup “prerecord” video of the incident for accountability purposes. However, the prerecord function only captures video and does not record audio. The Named Employee resigned from SPD approximately six weeks after OPA received this complaint and did not reply to OPA requests for an interview. The preponderance of the evidence shows that the interaction in question was such that the Named Employee was required by policy to activate the ICV in his police car and create both audio and video recordings of the entire contact. Furthermore, the preponderance of the evidence shows that the Named Employee failed to activate the ICV when required and, despite his efforts to recover the video from the prerecord function, failed to create an audio recording of the contact.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1**

#### Allegation #1

The evidence supports that Named Employee #1 violated the policy. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

Discipline imposed: Employee separated from Department, no discipline

*NOTE: The Seattle Police Department Manual policies cited for the allegation(s) made for this OPA Investigation are policies that were in effect during the time of the incident. The issued date of the policy is listed.*